

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

COUNTRY China

REPORT

SUBJECT Canton Shipyard

DATE DISTR. 3 April 1959

NO. PAGES 3

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The Canton Shipyard was opened in 1955; during 1956 only hulls were built there; marine engines came from Shanghai. In 1957 the shipyard began production of marine engines. [redacted] the shipyard had two docks for ship repair, one that could accommodate vessels up to 1,000 tons and another that could handle vessels up to 5,000 tons. The shipyard was to begin construction of 5,000 and 10,000-ton sea-going vessels in January 1959; launching sites for two 5,000-ton ships and one for a 10,000-ton ship were available. During the first term (sic) of 1959, repair facilities would be expanded to accommodate 10,000-ton ships. 50X1-HUM
2. The shipyard was situated on a strip of land 200 meters wide and 1,000 meters long, a total of 200,000 square meters. Workshop buildings were under construction and by the end of 1958 forty percent of the shipyard expansion project was expected to be complete; the entire shipyard was to be completed by 1962. 50X1-HUM

3. The shipyard employed a total of 5,800 workers; some of the workshops were on three shifts. By the end of 1959 it was expected to have 10,000 workers at the shipyard.
4. Besides shipbuilding, the shipyard constructed boilers up to 30 tons for other purposes.² In the future, the shipyard would build its own turbines. A workshop for producing seamless tubing and a steel plant were under construction; the annual output of steel was to be from 200,000 to 300,000 tons. 50X1-HUM

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "Y")

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In the future, steel rolling facilities would be added.³

5. [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

[REDACTED] No heat recuperator, known as a Cowper, was under construction or even seemed to be planned. Only two furnaces, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] were fitted with air blowers [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

[REDACTED], the air inlet is temporarily closed with a plate. One converter for every two furnaces is to be located at the front of the furnaces; [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the converters' capacity was to range from 0.1 to 10 tons. Brick walls for flame protection were being erected [REDACTED]

6. The overall appearance of the blast furnaces indicated that not very high temperatures were planned; production and efficiency would therefore be lower than with standard blast furnaces. Smaller blast furnaces were in operation in one of the buildings where casting was done; [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

7. The sketch on page 3 shows the location of the Canton Shipyard; [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

Comments

1. [REDACTED]

2. Thirty tons of steam per hour production was probably meant.

3. A large steel plant with large blast furnaces already operating was being expanded adjacent to the shipyard. This plant was to have a rolling mill. It appeared strange that the shipyard was constructing its own steel plant and related facilities when an existing plant was only a few hundred yards away.

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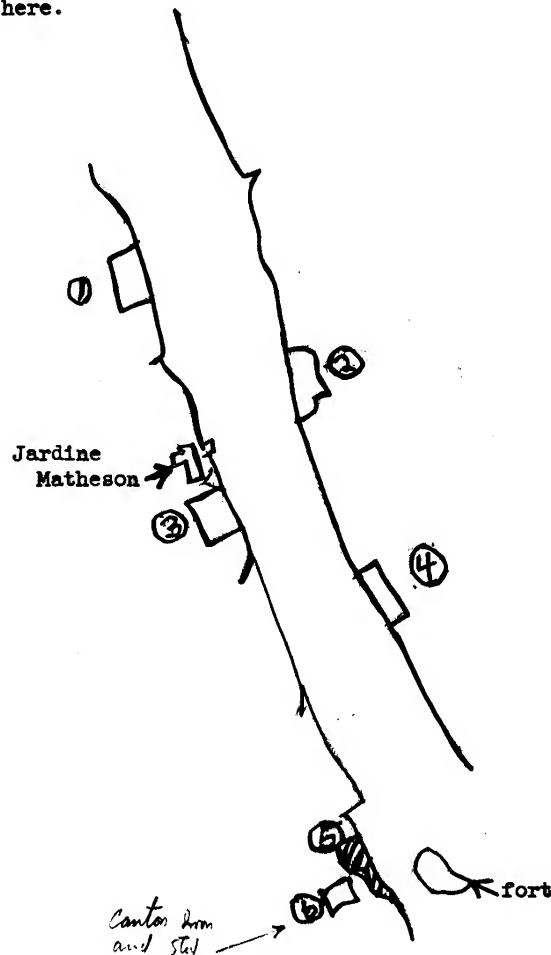
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Sketch of Back Reach, Canton

Key:

- (1) Two large oil tanks approximately 20 meters in diameter and 10 meters high were observed.
- (2) Six river gunboats, approximately 18 meters long, with guns fore and aft were moored at this point.
- (3) Two large tanks similar to those seen at point (1) and seven smaller ones.
- (4) Ten oil tanks were seen here.
- (5) Canton Shipyard.
- (6) Steel works.



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